

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 CPR-01 SSO-00 /027 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E: PGSMITH
APPROVED BY AF: RMMOOSE
AF/E: SHAMRICK (DRAFT)
NSC: HRICHARDSON (DRAFT)
S/S: MR. TARNOFF

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O 172000Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097899

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PDIP, OVIP (KAUNDA, KENNETH D)

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VISIT

REF: LUSAKA 1289

1. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN OUR PREPARATIONS FOR PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VISIT TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF IT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. THIS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN ENHANCING OUR ABILITY (AND THAT OF THE ZAMBIAN EMBASSY) TO BE SPECIFIC AND FORTHCOMING IN TALKING WITH NON-USG ENTITIES (YALE, STATE AND CITY GOVERNMENTS, MEDIA, ETC.) ABOUT THE VISIT. THE LATTER WILL BE IMPORTANT IN GETTING THE MEDIA EXPOSURE WHICH DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS PRESS AIDE PUNABANTU STRESSED IN HIS RECENT TALKS WITH ICA VISITORS.

2. IDEALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE VISIT SOMETIME DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 17-21. WE REALIZE THAT THE TIM-
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ING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT MAY BE A MATTER OF SOME SENSITIVITY TO THE GRZ, GIVEN THE FLUID SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION. NEVERTHELESS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR BROACHING THE IDEA OF SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE GRZ ASAP. IF THE ZAMBIANS ARE RECEPTIVE, PLEASE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT AND REQUEST GRZ CONCURRENCE OR ANY CHANGES DESIRED BY GRZ SOONEST.

BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT KENNETH D. KAUNDA OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA HAS ACCEPTED THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT CARTER TO MAKE A STATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. PRESIDENT KAUNDA WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MAY 17 AND 18 FOR MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND SENIOR UNITED STATES OFFICIALS. THE ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL CABINET MINISTERS AND OTHER SENIOR ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS.

PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS, US-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. PRESIDENT KAUNDA LAST VISITED THE UNITED STATES IN APRIL 1975 AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT GERALD FORD. END TEXT

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE097899
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PGSMITH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780164-0767
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780448/aaaabovd.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b84788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 LUSAKA 1289
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2941712
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VISIT
TAGS: PDIP, OVIP, ZA, US, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)
To: LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b84788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014